

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 01572 011618 Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 SY-10 M-03 A-01 OPR-02 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 COME-00 EB-11

LAB-06 SIL-01 OC-06 CCO-00 NEA-10 EURE-00 NIC-01

RSR-01 /155 W

----- 077047

P R 011555 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7923

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1572

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS, PO

SUBJ: MAY DAY BOMBING

1. AROUND 0300 HOURS MAY 1 BOMB EXPLODED IN MODERN, 20- STORY LISBON HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF CORPORATIONS MINISTRY, WHICH INCLUDES GOP LABOR MINISTRY. EXPLOSION SITE WAS DEPARTMENT WHERE LABOR CONTRACTS ARE NEGOTIATED. FORCE OF BLAST CAUSED EXTENSIVE INTERIOR WALL AND CEILING DAMAGE TO LARGE SECTION OF SIXTH FLOOR RUPTURING WATER MAINS AND DISRUPTING POWER DISTRIBUTION. ADDITIONALLY, THERE WAS LIGHT DAMAGE AND SOME FLOODING ON FLOOR BELOW. TWO LARGE WINDOWS WERE BLOWN OUT INTO STREET AND PLATE GLASS WINDOW IN NEARBY CAFE SHATTERED.

2. CLEAN- UP OPERATIONS UNDERWAY AT OPENING OF BUSINESS. BY 09 30 HOURS MINISTRY APPEARED TO BE OPERATING UNDER NEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NORMAL CONDITIONS DESPITE REDUCED ELECTRIC POWER AND
TIME- CONSUMING IDENTITY CHECKS BY POLICE AT MAIN
ENTRANCE.

3. SECURITY MEASURES HAD BEEN BEEFED UP AT CORPORA-
TIONS MINISTRY IN RECENT DAYS IN APPARENT ANTICIPATION
OF MAY DAY BOMB ATTEMPT AT PORTUGAL' S " LABOR MINISTRY."
ACCORDING MINISTRY EMPLOYEE, PACKAGES AND IDENTITY CARDS
HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CHECKED. STRONG POSSIBILITY EXISTS
THAT BOMBING WAS INSIDE JOB. THOUGH NO GROUP HAS YET
CLAIMED CREDIT, PATTERN OF BOMBING SIMILAR TO RECENT
EXPLOSIONS AT ARMY INSTALLATIONS IN LISBON AND OPORTO
(LISBON 0878, LISBON 0953 AND LISBON 1235).
POST

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LISBON01572
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730534/aaaahlkh.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971118
Subject: MAY DAY BOMBING
TAGS: PINS, PO
To: EUR
LOURENCO MARQUES
LUANDA
OPORTO
PONTA DELGADA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005